

SECRET
RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS
NINTH AIR FORCE

Exh #29-Aug 1944

APC 696, U S Army,
7 August 1944.

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER.....199)

In relinquishing command of the Ninth Air Force, which it has been my privilege and duty to have held some two years from its initial entry into combat, I cannot be blamed if my initial reaction is one of sincere personal regret. The unstinting loyalty and complete co-operation of every officer, man and woman of this command through the trials and tribulations of organization and training and the fortitude and inimitable determination with which the operations have been effected in my opinion constitutes a conspicuous contribution to the ultimate defeat of the enemy. Your devotion to the task at hand and the masterly execution thereof warrants the conviction that both were controlling factors in the initial successes attained in the invasion and will be so in subsequent achievements to come.

Thru Libya and Tunisia and now in Normandy, the individual and collective deeds of heroism and the arduous tasks of administration, planning and preparation all done faithfully are in keeping with the highest traditions of our Army and its Air Force.

I am proud of you and each of you can be justly proud. It has been a most esteemed official and individual right to have been your commander.

Good luck to you all.

/s/ L. H. Brereton,
/s/ L. H. BRERETON,
Lt. Gen., USA,
Commanding

THIS IS A TRUE COPY:

Frank M. Hoppe
FRANK M. HOPPE,
1st Lt., A.S.
Historical Officer.

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